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Contact Office Date

Katherine Dueholm Office of Caribbean Affairs April 30, 2020
U.S. Department of State

The Guyana Situation in Brief

A Major Threat to U.S. Interest

Guyana's Background

- Former British Colony (British Guiana)
- Location: North Eastern shoulder of South America
- >Achieved Independence in 1966
- > Republic type of Government with a Parliamentary style
- ➤ Government elected by 65 member National Assembly
- > President and Prime Minister serve 5-year terms
- ➤ Last General Election held on March 2nd, 2020

Current Government and Leadership

- President and Head of State, His Excellency David Granger: U.S.
 & British military specialist training, Prolific Author, Former Commander of Guyana's Defense Force
- > Prime Minister, His Excellency Moses Nagamootoo.
- Coalition Government: A coalition of six political parties representing all race groups in Guyana
- > A member of the Lima Group and strong believer in democratic values
- President Trump praises President Granger for implementing democratic values in Guyana:
- https://demerarawaves.com/tag/guyanas-49th-republicananniversary/

Economy and Economic Prospects

- ➤ Agricultural and Natural Resources-Rich Economy and the potential to surpass Qatar in natural gas production
- ➤ Prodigious agricultural land used for cultivation of sugarcane primarily for spirits production, and all other tropical fruits and vegetables.
- ➤ Bauxite, Gold, Oil and Natural Gas
- Major Oil and Gas discovery headed by Exxon and Apache: Potential: 13.6 billion barrels of oil and 32 trillion cubic feet of natural gas (the U.S. has 15 trillion cubic feet of natural gas). Oil revenues began in December, 2019
- ➤ Chevron and Andarko have holdings
- > Pre-Oil and Gas GDP: \$3.6 billion in 2019
- > Pre-Oil and Gas GDP Growth: 4.5 % in 2019
- ➤ Projected-Oil and Gas GDP: 33.5% in 2020

Current Political Situation in Guyana

- RAfter শাৰ প্ৰতিবাৰণ বালি প্ৰতিবাৰণ বিশি প্ৰতিবাৰণ বালি প্ৰতি
- The Elections Commission has not made a final declaration as is required by law
- The APNU+AFC has said that they respect the Elections Commission and will await the final declaration
- The opposition refused to accept the declaration of the 10 Electoral Districts and went to court. After several appearances before the Courts the Elections Commission has agreed to a recount of all the votes cast in the Elections
- The APNU+AFC are on record as calling upon all Guyanese to respect the decisions of the Court and the Independence of the Elections Commission
- APNU+AFC has called for peace and patience while the Elections Commission does its work
- The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State has called the Guyana Ambassador in Washington and advised that significant sanctions would follow any swearing in of the President in the circumstance
- APNU+AFC believe that statements from the Assistant Secretary of State calling for sanctions are being orchestrated by the PPP and their consultants in the U.S.
- United States at risk in Guyanese Dispute

United States At Risk in Guyana Dispute

- 1. Educated in Moscow, Mr. Jagdeo has used his influence with Russia to serve as a liaison with his decades long friend Nicholas Maduro of Venezuela. No wonder the private jet carrying a Cuban, Libyan and Russian who came to Guyana to work for PPP during the election originated in Venezuela (see documentation in the Dossier)
- 2. Mr. Jagdeo has worked with his friend Nicholas Maduro to undermine Guyana's President Granger's effort in the current border dispute with Venezuela, choosing to deny Guyana a resolution of a dispute upon which the country's future chiefly depends
- Mr. Jagdeo has consistently worked to undermine Exxon's position in Guyana: http://guyanachronicle.com/2020/01/24/jagdeodismisses-ali-position-on-review-of-exxon-contract

United States Vital Interest at Risk in Guyanese Dispute

Guyana is in Danger of Reverting to its Bygone Era of Governing

- The Guyanese Opposition Party- PPP, founded by the late Hon. Cheddi Jagan, is now led by some very dangerous people who have undermined U.S. interest in the region for more than 20 years.
- PPP tenure in office immersed in criminal activity; Robbing the Treasury, Money Laundering, Narcotics Trafficking and Extrajudicial Killings
- 2. PPP engaged in directly undermining U.S. interest by cozying up to the Venezuelan Regime of Hugo Chavez and Maduro. Mr. Jagdeo, the leader of the party, as President, harbored vicious drug traffickers in the region, many of whom ended up in U.S. prisons without his cooperation

A portrait of the key PPP Figures: Bharat Jagdeo and Mohammed Irfaan Ali

BHARAT JAGDEO

If you landed from outer space today, you would think that Bharat Jagdeo is the PPP's March 2, 2020 Presidential Candidate in Guyana. He has been publicly relentless as if he were the Presidential Candidate, running an ethnic campaign

- Mr. Jagdeo was educated in Moscow
- Served as President from 1999 to 2011 and statutorily cannot run for the presidency
- He went to the highest court in the Caribbean (CCJ) to change the constitution to run again, but failed.
- During his reign, Guyana was widely viewed as a Narco-State, rampant with government corruption
- Mr. Jagdeo became close to the Cartel De los Soles head Dios Dado Cabello and was actively collaborating with deceased President Hugo Chavez, and now Nicholas Maduro, recently indicted by the United States for drug trafficking.

A portrait of the key PPP Figures: Bharat Jagdeo and Mohammed Irfaan Ali

- Mr. Jagdeo's government and the allied criminal network headed by Shaheed Roger Khan, who subsequently served 15 years in a U.S. prison after extradition to the United States, turned Guyana into one of the most corrupt and violent countries in the region. His administration, carried out by current PPP Presidential Candidate Mohamed Irfaan Ali as Housing Minister, approved the sale of the country's land to cabinet members at below market rates and illegally.
- Mr. Jagdeo turned a blind eye to the execution of over 400 Afro Guyanese men and women, which the International Community saw as state sponsored, extra-judicial killings. Those killings prompted the following statement from the United States Government:

"Necessary steps should be taken to ensure that human rights are observed and protected and that where persons are found to be culpable of violating those rights they should be prosecuted," U.S. Charge d'Affaires Karen Williams told reporters at the U.S. embassy in Georgetown.

 Mr. Jagdeo amassed a fortune, estimated to be around \$50 million after serving as President of poverty-stricken Guyana for 12 years

Irfaan Ali Peoples-Progressive Party (PPP) Presidential Candidate

- Mr. Ali is a member of Guyana's small Muslim population who primarily engage in FOREX and Agribusiness.
- Minister of Housing in the Bharat Jadjeo Administration
- Mr. Ali has been charged by the Guyana Special Organized Crime Unit (SOCU) for illegal sale of public lands
- Mr. Ali was recently denied entry to Canada arising from his criminal charges and unsavory background
- Recently he has been the subject of controversy for falsifying applications to universities by claiming degrees he never earned
- In the March 2, 2020 Presidential contest he was the candidate, but it is clear that he is a surrogate for Mr. Jagdeo, who statutorily cannot run for president.

The Quest to Control the Oil Wealth

- With an almost fanatical zeal, the PPP, lead by Bharat Jagdeo and his understudy Mohamed Irfaan Ali, has been in relentless pursuit of control of the oil resources of Guyana.
- Messrs. Jagdeo and Ali have condoned violence by the Indian-Guyanese against the rest of the population if they don't win the election.
- Both men stormed into the Election Commission Headquarters and barged into the Director's office, with members of his party arrested for physically threatening behavior. The building was surrounded by a mob of their supporters, some of whom were armed.
- If the PPP gets control of Guyana, Russia will control the Northern Region of South America, from Venezuela to Suriname, and natural resources far exceeding Saudi Arabia's.
- It is obvious that Jagdeo must never again be allowed to gain power in Guyana for the preceding reasons.

Urgent Situation in Guyana

- The Government of His Excellency David Granger won the election held on March 2, 2020
- The opposition refused to concede and stormed the Headquarters of the Guyana Election Commission backed up by an unruly mob to intimidate the officials and prevent them from announcing the results as is required
- The last remaining tally was from Region 4, a historical stronghold of the Governing coalition
- The vote count of the Granger Government v. the PPP in Region 4
 was not even close and was consistent with historical trends
- The PPP has been trying to gain U.S. support to stage a coup against the Granger Government

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Additional material is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, District of Columbia.